THIS BEING THE SPECIAL FILE COPY FOR LIBRARY B. M. A. IT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED THAT IT MAY BE RETURNED AT AS EARLY A DATE AS POSSIBLE.

*With the Compliments of Dr. Coates.*

Bleak House, Patrington,

January 29th, 1897.

To the District Council of Patrington.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg leave to present my first Annual Report covering the year 1896.

The estimated population of the district is 8619.

The Births have been: males, 106; females, 110; total, 216.

The rate per 1000 for 1896 is 25·06, as against 1895, 24·8; 1894, 22·4.

The number of illegitimate births was 11, or 1 in 19·6.

There were six twins born during the year.

The deaths have amounted to: males, 73; females, 56; total, 129.

The death rate per 1000 for 1896 is 14·9; against 1895, 15·5; and 1894, 12·6.

18 deaths have taken place under 1 year of age; average per thousand is 2·08.

The number of deaths are as follows: under 1 year, 18; over 1 year and under 5, 10; over 5 and under 15, 3; over 15 and under 25, 5; over 25 and under 65, 39; over 65, 54.

The average age of death was 47·07 years.

The following were the chief causes of death: Puerperal Fever, 1; Measles, 1; Diarrhœa, 3; Consumption, 9; Respiratory Diseases, 14; Heart, 22; Cancer, 10; Injuries, 4; all other diseases, 65.

Inquests have been held by the Coroner to ascertain the cause of death in six cases.

There were no deaths during 1896 in the parishes of Frodingham, Outnewton, Owstwick, Owthorne, Tunstall and Waxholme.

The other parishes are as follows:

| | Births. | | Deaths. | | Comparative Death Rate per 1000. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Burstwick | 15 | ... | 3 | ... | 6 6 |
| Burton Pidsea | 10 | ... | 9 | ... | 25·7 |
| Easington | 9 | ... | 9 | ... | 23·6 |
| Halsham | 5 | ... | 5 | ... | 20 7 |
| Hollym | 7 | ... | 3 | .. | 12·01 |
| Hilston | 1 | ... | 1 | .. | 26·3 |
| Holmpton | 5 | .. | 5 | ... | 25·0 |
| Keyingham | 10 | .. | 10 | ... | 16·9 |
| Kilnsea | 5 | ... | 3 | ... | 18·1 |
| Ottringham | 18 | ... | 10 | ... | 18 8 |
| The Union | 3 | ... | 5 | ... | |
| Patrington | 27 | ... | 13 | ... | 11·1 |
| Paull | 23 | .. | 5 | ... | 8·9 |
| Rimswell | 7 | ... | 4 | ... | 33·3 |
| Roos | 12 | ... | 9 | ... | 18·3 |
| Ryehill | 5 | ... | 3 | ... | 14·4 |
| Skeffling | — | ... | 1 | .. | 7·1 |
| Sunk Island | 6 | ... | 1 | ... | 2 2 |
| Thorngumbald | 8 | ... | 4 | ... | 13·7 |
| Welwick | 7 | ... | 2 | ... | 6 3 |
| Withernsea | 19 | ... | 22 | ... | 22·0 |
| Convalescent Home W'sea— | | ... | 1 | ... | — |
| Winestead | 6 | ... | 1 | ... | 7·1 |

There has been a return of Influenza during the year, but no fatal case I am pleased to say.

Taking it on the whole the district can be congratulated on its general health.

As regards infectious diseases, the Medical Officer is working in the dark, and I would point out to the Board the serious position of the villages, especially such an important one as Withernsea, in the event of an epidemic of any contagious disease.

As the Notification Act has not been put into operation it is impossible to protect the inhabitants of the district from such diseases.

To illustrate : during the past year a number of cases of scarlet fever, fortunately of a mild type, have come under my notice in Patrington, Holmpton, and Withernsea. Under the existing state of things the patients are allowed to mix with the public in the churches, schools, chapels, and public places during the most infectious period of the disease, that is during the desquamation or peeling. Consequently the disease is propagated, and its departure from the district retarded. Under the Notification Act it would be a penal offence to do this : the persons could be proceeded against, and fined. The disease might then be checked at its commencement in a district. This is a serious question, and merits the grave consideration of the Council.

During the year the following schools have been closed owing to epidemics of either measles or whooping cough :—

Thorngumbald, Paull, Holmpton, Ottringham.

During 1896 additions have been made to the burial grounds at Patrington, Rimswell, and Thorne, whilst a new one has been inspected and approved of at Keyingham.

I have made a number of analyses of well-waters, and in some cases have had the wells cleaned and in others closed.

New drainage has been accomplished at Keyingham, Roos, and Withernsea: at the latter place several improvements have been effected.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Under this heading complaints have been made at Withernsea of a fried-fish shop. The matter has had attention and the nuisance abated.

NUISANCES AND UNSANITARY HOUSES.

Several complaints have been made and dealt with during the year, but it would be well if more energy could be shewn in dealing with infractions of the Public Health Act, and more expedition used.

The early suppression of nuisances is imperative if they are to be dealt with at all.

I am yours, etc.,

W. H. COATES,

Licentiate in Sanitary Science.,
M.A., M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.S.A., F.C.S.,
H.M. Certifying Surgeon, etc.,
Medical Officer of Health, Patrington,
Member of the Inner Temple.

Silvanus

BLEAK HOUSE,
PATRINGTON,
YORKSHIRE.

Feb 12th 97

Dear Sir

I enclose my Report (printed at my own expense) on the Health of South Holderness in 1896:

If you would lend it to the Editor of the B.M.A Journal so that he might note the Infectious Diseases Notification suggestion

I should feel obliged

Yours
W H Bowles
Chirt:

Patrington

Dr Cooke

Ent Editor by request

of author.

Librarian,
Brit. Med. Assoc^n.,
429 Strand
London W.C.